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South Carolina State Library Board

S. C. STATE LIBRARY

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NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

October 1, 1958

15th Issue

SOUTH CAROLINA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEETING

"South Carolina Reads" will be the theme of the South Carolina Library Association's annual meeting, October 31 - November 1. The meeting will be held in Columbia at the Columbia Hotel.

The speaker for the opening meeting, Friday, October 31, will be Dr. J. K. Williams, Dean of the Graduate School of Clemson College. His subject will be "The Librarian and Anti-Intellectualism." That evening at the banquet, Mr. Richard Walser, Associate Professor of English at North Carolina State College, will talk about "One's Literary Heritage." The luncheon speaker on Saturday, November 1, will be Mrs. Sarah K. Srygley, Associate Professor of Library Service, Florida State University.

Mrs. Srygley will also be the guest of the School Library Section and Dr. Susan G. Akers, Professor and Dean Emeritus of the University of North Carolina School of Library Science, will speak to the College Library Section.

The Public Library Section will have two meetings during the convention. The program meeting has been set for Friday afternoon, when Mrs. Florence S. Craig, Director of Adult Education, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio, will discuss the national public library standards. Following her talk, the section committees will make their reports. At the business meeting on Saturday morning, the report of the Constitution Revision Committee will be made and discussed and officers for the new year elected.

The Trustee Section will meet at luncheon on Friday at 12:30 to hear an address by Mr. Benjamin H. Gardner of Aiken on National Library Week.

All public librarians are urged to make plans to attend!

PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS WORKSHOP

On Thursday and Friday, October 30 and 31, immediately before the SCLA meeting, the Public Library Section will sponsor a workshop for head librarians and graduate librarians on the general subject of publicity and public relations. Various sessions of the workshop will consider library public relations and the library in the community; newspapers, radio, TV; and publicity and public relations with the individual. The workshop will meet in the Richland County Public Library's auditorium. The registration fee will be \$1.00 per person.

Mrs. Florence Craig will serve as consultant to the workshop. An informal dinner



followed by a book discussion led by Mrs. Craig is being planned for Thursday night.

A special feature of the workshop will be selected displays from public libraries all over the state.

### SOUTHEASTERN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEETING

The biennial meeting of the Southeastern Library Association will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, October 23 - 25, just one week before the SCLA meeting. See last month's issue of this bulletin for details.

### REGION'S LEGAL PRELIMINARIES COMPLETE

At a meeting of the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library Board held in Aiken on September 29 a contract between the regional board and the State Library Board for a Demonstration was signed. This contract specifies the financial obligations assumed by the three counties of the region and by the State Library Board for support of the new library. It also prescribes the standards of service that will be maintained and sets forth the responsibilities of both parties to the contract. The signing of this contract marked the completion of the legal arrangements necessary for starting the library's service.

Miss Josephine Crouch, Director of the library, reported to the board that office space for the regional headquarters had been rented, shelving, lights and air conditioning installed, and equipment ordered. The regional staff is almost complete and it is expected that service will begin during the first week in October.

### GREENWOOD LIBRARY IN NEW BUILDING

The Greenwood City and County Public Library opened Monday, September 15, in its handsome new building on North Main Street in Greenwood.

Because not all the furniture and other furnishings have arrived, a formal program and open house have been postponed temporarily. Books and other materials have been moved in and put in place, however, and full service is being given despite the sparseness of furniture.

The library will observe different hours in the new building and for the first time will be open two evenings each week. The evening hours were set in response to requests from library patrons, Miss Elizabeth Porcher, Librarian, said.

### SCLA CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

The SCLA Constitution Committee, appointed by the President to recommend revision, met on Friday, October 3, to complete its proposed changes. The Executive Committee of the Association has requested that the report be presented to each of the sections at the annual meeting and that an opportunity be given the members to make suggestions for revision. The Committee will then re-study the plan and consider suggestions received before completing a report for the Executive Committee.

Miss Josephine Crouch is Chairman of the Committee.



## A NEW SERIES

### NOTABLE TRUSTEES: MISS MARY E. FRAYSER

With this issue the State Library Board will begin the publication of a series of articles featuring outstanding public library trustees. The first article will be devoted to Miss Mary E. Frayser whose long service to public libraries in the state has certainly earned her the title of "Dean of Library Trustees in South Carolina."

Also beginning with this issue a copy of the News for Public Librarians will be sent to the chairman of each public library board in the state. Library board chairmen are requested to circulate their copy of the newsletter among members of their boards.

On July 3, 1947, Miss Mary E. Frayser was given national recognition when she was awarded a Trustee Citation by the ALA for meritorious achievement in the growth and development of libraries. She was at that time chairman of the S. C. State Library Board, an office she held until 1951. She has been a member of the Board since 1929 when it was created, and is at present an honorary life member and regularly attends its meetings.

Miss Frayser is a Virginian who came to South Carolina in 1912 to work with the Extension Service of Winthrop College. Her first job was to promote community improvement in rural and mill village communities. One of the greatest needs she discovered was for books and reading materials. Realizing that any program for general adult education and community recreation necessitated the ready availability of reading material, she set herself the goal of public library service for every citizen of the state.

When Miss Frayser began her work in South Carolina there was not a public library in the state worthy of the name. Charleston and a few other cities had subscription libraries and a few reading rooms were being operated by the club women of the state. Miss Frayser seized upon this interest in libraries shown by the women's clubs, and using their interest and her own position in the various clubs, went to work for a statewide system of libraries. Her goal was fourfold: a state bill permitting taxation for the support of public libraries, a library association, the creation of a state library agency, and the development of statewide library service.

The passage in 1915 of a bill to permit taxation for the support of public libraries was the first step toward the realization of Miss Frayser's library plans. She had begun work in 1913 on the commission bill and for fifteen years worked actively through her club affiliations for the passage of the bill. She saw to it that libraries came first in every club program for civic improvement.

In 1928 as the result of a survey made by Miss Frayser, Clemson College published the pamphlet, "The use of Leisure in Eight South Carolina Counties." The lack and the need of reading material which this study revealed was instrumental in arousing the interest of the legislature and resulted in the passage of a bill establishing the State Library Board as an extension agency, but with no provision for support. Miss Frayser became



a member of the first State Library Board and through her efforts and the efforts of other board members \$1,000 was raised which was generously matched by the Rosenwald Foundation. From 1929 until 1932 the board was able to employ a trained library field worker, but in 1933 due to the general depression, funds were cut off. The work of the field agent and of the Board resulted in the publication of a research bulletin by the Experiment Station of Clemson College entitled "Libraries of South Carolina." This bulletin emphasized the lack of libraries and the reading needs of the entire state, and aroused so much public interest that a meeting of leading citizens was called by the president of Clemson College to discuss South Carolina's library needs and to plan methods of meeting them. The meeting resulted in the formation of the Citizen's Library Association of which Miss Mary E. Frayser became vice-president.

During the depression, Miss Frayser continued her campaign for free public libraries through her chairmanships in various organizations and through the Citizen's Library Association of which she eventually became president. The WPA program seemed to offer an opportunity for library development, and three days after the Director of Women's Work was appointed for South Carolina, Miss Frayser had appealed to her for a state library program in WPA. The eventual establishment of a library project of WPA gave tremendous impetus to library work in the state.

When notice was received that the WPA would go out of existence in the spring of 1943, Miss Frayser immediately planned to salvage the library progress made under WPA by securing a state appropriation for the work of the State Library Board. She enlisted the help of organizations in the state and managed to secure an emergency appropriation of \$3,000 to operate the State Board from April until July 1943 when the legislature's appropriation of \$15,000 would become available. Since that date, an appropriation for the State Library Board has been continuous and Miss Frayser has continued to work for increases.

Miss Frayser would be the last person in the state to say that hers has been a one man job. She has had the interested cooperation of a large group of organizations and friends of libraries, but hers has been the drive, the unflagging enthusiasm, and the determination that have made the library program of South Carolina a reality. The county libraries, the city and town libraries of the state, the school library program, and the State Library Board owe their existence in a large part to her untiring work.

#### NEED MORE MONEY?

Could you use \$500 more in your budget? If you can, then you will be interested in the request the State Library Board is making for an increase in its appropriation to allow an increase in State Aid to county and regional libraries. Additional funds are being requested which would allow State Aid to be increased to \$2,000 per qualifying county library.

For the past six years State Aid has remained static at \$1,500 per county. In that period the price of books has rapidly increased and all other operating expenses of the library have increased accordingly. State Aid is not designed to take the place of local funds, but it is designed to give county and regional libraries needed assistance in providing



area-wide service.

The State Library Board will make a concerted effort to have the budget request approved which would allow for this increase in State Aid. No other requests for increases are being made by the State Board and it is hoped that it will be possible to get approval for an increase in State Aid which is now so badly needed in all county and regional libraries of the state.

#### WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH - 1960

In March 1960, thousands of United States Citizens will participate in the golden anniversary of a great national tradition affecting the welfare of children and youth. For the sixth time in fifty years, citizen representatives from forty-nine States and the Territories will gather at the call of the President of the United States for a White House Conference on Children and Youth.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower in his initial communication concerning the 1960 Conference, said:

"The rapidly changing times in which we live, and the increasingly fast pace of change, make it incumbent on us to do everything we can to plan ahead and to see that we prepare today's children well for life in tomorrow's world."

Preparatory work on the Conference is already underway in South Carolina. Governor Timmerman has appointed a Steering Committee to make plans for South Carolina's participation in the 1960 Conference.

Libraries in South Carolina participated in the initial work for the 1950 Conference and were represented on the State Committee and on numerous local committees. It is hoped that libraries will take an even more active part in the 1960 Conference.

At this time local committees are being appointed to complete the survey of activities affecting children and youth in each community. The names of public librarians in each county in the State have been submitted to the State Committee with the request that at least one librarian from each county be included on the local committee. Librarians are urged to accept these appointments when received.

A questionnaire to be completed by the local committee in each county is being prepared at state level. This questionnaire will contain a section devoted to library services to children and youth. The 1950 questionnaire and the resulting report based on its findings resulted in improvement of library services to children and youth throughout the state. Among the improvements were the establishment of separate collections for young people, the beginning of story hours for young children, and in at least three cases, the establishment of countywide library service in counties which previously had had almost no public library service.

Libraries throughout the State are alerted to be on the lookout for ways in which



they can help the local White House Conference Committee complete its survey of activities affecting the welfare of children and youth.

#### ORANGEBURG FAIR BOOTH

Orangeburg County Free Library had an attractive booth at the county fair. Visitors entered through the "Gateway to Good Reading" and saw the location of county service points marked with small bookmobiles on a large map of the county. A train of good reading attracted much youthful attention as did the display of juvenile books. There was also an eye-catching collection of adult books.

#### NEWBERY-CALDECOTT AWARDS BALLOTS

Ballots for this year's Newbery and Caldecott awards will be mailed to all members of the Children's Services Division of the American Library Association on October 31. They should be completed and returned promptly, in time to reach Mrs. Carolyn W. Field in the Free Library of Philadelphia before the deadline of December 6. Remember the rules governing the selection: The Newbery Medal is awarded annually to the author of the "most distinguished contribution to American literature for children" published in this country in 1958 by an author who is a citizen or resident of the United States. There are no limitations as to the character of the book except that it must be an original work, or if traditional in origin, new to children's literature and the result of individual research. The Caldecott Medal is given to the illustrator of the most distinguished picture book for children published in 1958.

Make this the year to use not lose that ballot!

#### MISS MABEL RUNNETTE

Public Librarians of South Carolina join in expressing sympathy to the family of Miss Mabel Runnette who was for many years librarian of the Beaufort Township Library. Miss Runnette's death occurred in September, after a long illness.

#### DR. T. A. QUATTLEBAUM

Sympathy is also extended to Mrs. T. A. Quattlebaum, Fairfield County Librarian, whose husband, Dr. Quattlebaum, died in August. Mrs. Quattlebaum recently flew to Maracaibo, Venezuela, to spend two months with her son and daughter-in-law there.

#### NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

The State Library Board would like to have newspaper clippings about library activities in your county. Much good material for publicity is obtained from clippings as well as news for this bulletin.

To those of you who are already sending them in, many thanks.



## WEEDING

(Reprinted from Newsletter to Nebraska Librarians  
Trustees and Friends - August and September 1958)

"Psychological Barriers to Weeding by Frederick Wezeman, Associate Professor, University of Minnesota Library School, in the ALA Bulletin, September, 1958.

'We do not realize the bad impression created by shelves cluttered with old, outdated, useless material. Many of our customers do not complain - they just stay away\*\*\*\*. Dead, outdated books are not only costly to house, they obstruct the work of the library in many ways\*\*\*\*. Public Library service is a product we are proud of and which we feel is worthy of tax support. \*\*\*\*What about our stewardship of public office? How much support would the park department receive if it permitted the golf course to be overrun with weeds?'

"Weeding Standards and Regional Writers - The Wilson Library Bulletin, September 1958, p. 62 mentions two guides on Regional Writers that are of great assistance to the librarian bent on doing a thorough and competent job of weeding. These guides indicate the regional materials that should not be discarded. The Literary Midwest by David James Harkness, University of Tennessee Extension, February 1958, covers the states of Iowa, Missouri, the Dakotas, Nebraska and Kansas. America in In Fiction: An Annotated List of Novels that Interpret Aspects of Life in the United States by Otis W. Coan and Richard G. Lillard, Stanford University Press, is a publication of great use to the librarian - it serves as a buying guide, a readers advisor's tool as well as a help in weeding fiction."

## AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK, NOVEMBER 9-15

This year's theme stresses the new challenges posed by the Space Age. "Report Card U.S.A." -- where do we stand today? What does the report card show? A pamphlet prepared by the Adult Education Section of the U.S. Office of Education, "Adult Education in American Education Week," says that adult education is no longer a marginal activity; it is a major concern which merits prominent recognition during this week (and every week, we might add). The pamphlet contains facts, resources and program ideas for local planners who wish to emphasize lifelong learning. Single copies are available free from the U. S. Office of Education. It is also available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., at \$.10 a copy, \$6.50 per 100 copies.

Another publication which can be useful during this week is the "Rockefeller Report" on education, a pamphlet titled "The Pursuit of Excellence; Education and the Future of America." It contains a well-expressed, thoughtful analysis of the kind of education that should grow out of a free society's concern for individual excellence -- a concern which is of vital importance in the maintenance of such a free society. The report, which promises to provide good discussion material, outlines many facets of the problems facing American education and suggests some of the solutions from which our choices will be made.

Sample quote: "Some of our more discerning critics are uneasy about the current



aspirations and values of Americans. They sense a lack of purpose in Americans; they see evidence that security, conformity, and comfort are idols of the day; and they fear that our young people have lost youth's immemorial fondness for adventure, far horizons, and the challenge of the unpredictable... It is possible to identify a posture more constructive than hand-wringing in connection with the problem. The truth is that never in our history have we been in a better position to commit ourselves wholeheartedly to the pursuit of excellence in every phase of our national life."

This is one of a series called "America at Mid-Century", and is published by Doubleday at \$.75. The series, which is made up of sections (international security, economic and social aspects, foreign economic policy) of the report of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund Special Studies Report, is also being made available to educational organizations at cost, in quantities of 10 copies or more, prepaid. Address Rockefeller Brothers Fund, P. O. Box No. 28A, Mount Vernon 10, N. Y., for further information on ordering.

### ADULT EDUCATION BIBLIOGRAPHY

-- A committee of ALA's Adult Services Division has found a practical approach to the compilation of a bibliography of library adult education. At the San Francisco Conference, Dr. C. Walter Stone, chairman of ASD's Committee on a Bibliography of Adult Education in Libraries, distributed preliminary drafts of three annotated guides prepared by members of the committee. Each guide is devoted to a topic of concern to librarians planning adult educational activities, and includes a brief review of the activities in the specific area, and a critique of the literature on this topic, as well as a bibliography. The first three guides are available in limited quantities from the office of ALA's Adult Services Division, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago 11, Ill. Number one is on program planning, by Muriel Fuller, number two on television, by Dr. Stone, and number three is on book talks, by Mrs. Polly G. Anderson.

### LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE AGING

-- A topic of increasing national concern is that of the implications in the increase in numbers of older people. At San Francisco, ALA's Adult Services Division took action in several instances in recognition of this concern. Its Board of Directors voted to establish a standing committee on library service to an aging population; the Conference Program Committee announced plans for a workshop on library service for the aging to be held during the Washington Conference in June, 1959, and the membership meeting authorized a resolution supporting the idea of a White House Conference on Aging. This resolution was sent immediately to congressmen and government officials in Washington, and was well received by them. Note: A bill providing for such a conference in January 1961 was passed in the last days of the Congress.

Other agencies working with older people are vitally interested in the kinds of services libraries are offering. A brief article describing the ALA Office for Adult Education study of these services, which appeared in Aging for June, 1958 (monthly, \$1.00 a year, published by the Special Staff on Aging, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare,



Washington 25, D. C., and available from the U.S. Superintendent of Documents) resulted in a number of inquiries. The editors of Aging plan to describe instances of existing library services for the aged in its forthcoming issues. Have you something to report?

LOOK AT THESE!

Children's Reading

Larrick, Nancy.

A Parent's Guide to Children's Reading.

Doubleday. (Hard cover edition) \$2.95; Pocket Books (paperback edition) \$.35.  
Published October 2.

"Eighteen national organizations representing children, parents, librarians, teachers and others concerned with children's reading" accepted the invitation of the National Book Committee to cooperate with the author in writing this new book. "Each group named a consultant who gave the author assistance in the area in which he was particularly qualified." The result is a new and excellent handbook for parents on their children's reading, from 6 months to 12 years of age. It is specific, thorough, and full of common sense. Librarians will find it a good means of answering parents' questions about reading. They will also find here much material that will be useful in work with children as well as with parents' organizations.

National Book Committee Quarterly

The Summer 1958 issue of this journal is devoted to "The Development of Lifetime Reading Habits." It contains reports of two workshops sponsored by library schools, one on the East coast and one on the West, on children's reading and the role of parents in fostering good reading habits. It is well worth reading, especially in connection with the Larrick title above.

The periodical is published by the National Book Committee, Inc., 24 West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y. The subscription price is \$1.00 per year.

Phonograph Records for Classroom and Library

A catalog of records for children from kindergarten to grade 9. Available free from Educational Record Sales, 153 Chambers Street, New York 6, N. Y.

Dutton-Macrae Award

This is a \$1,000 fellowship awarded annually for the advancement of library service to children and youth. It provides an unusual opportunity for formal and informal advanced study by a professionally-educated librarian who has had at least three years of experience in libraries serving children, young people, of young adults. Applications are due by April 1. For more information write to: Children's Services Division, American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.



Frederic G. Melcher Scholarship

Candidates who wish to prepare themselves for librarianship in the field of children's or young people's work are eligible for this scholarship. The amount of the award is \$750 and recipients must have been accepted for enrollment in an ALA-accredited library school. Applications are due by April 1. For more information, write to the Children's Services Division at the address given above.

**YOUR PROBLEMS**

by

Anne Library

Dear Anne:

My library workers are a constant problem to me, especially in one respect. Both of them have insurance policies on which they pay a cash premium. At least once every week the agent comes to the library to collect. This means that the workers must put down their work, find their pocketbooks, hand over the money and wait while the agent makes note of the payment. I object strenuously to this loss of working time. Also, it is unseemly for this agent to be collecting in the library. I have tried to get these workers to make other arrangements, but they say they cannot, that the insurance man does not work at night and Sundays when they are at home. I think they are just being obstinate. Don't you? Should I fire them?

**Uninsured**

Dear Uninsured:

Now we know for certain that Simon Legree did have a lineal descendant!

Your staff members should not allow the collection of an insurance premium or transaction of any other personal business to interfere with their service to library patrons. If the insurance agent arrives when the workers are busy with patrons, he should wait his turn and not interrupt any library work that is in progress. The library staff members should, too, have the money ready to hand over so that the whole business can be completed as quickly and inconspicuously as possible. As long as matters of this kind are not allowed to interrupt work frequently or to cause long delays either in service to the public or in completion of other work, you should not object. Every human being sooner or later will have some small item of personal business that can be settled only during working hours. Recognize this. You don't want non-humans on your staff, do you?

Dear Anne:

The girl I have to work with is against every new idea that is proposed for the library regardless of what it is. Several years ago when all the rest of us were eager to start a record lending service she opposed it so unyieldingly that our librarian postponed purchase



of the initial collection for nearly a year, trying to bring her around. When we started our film service, the same thing happened again. She fights every new thing that is considered and even when all the rest of the staff are enthusiastically for something, plans are set back for months while the librarian tries to persuade her that it is really a good idea.

I am getting tired of this. Our library has lost more than one opportunity to improve service and public relations because of this person's fear of new things. And we have lost more than one assistant because the young librarians want to move on to places where things are done, not just argued and argued and argued about. Is there anything I can do about this?

Fed Up

Dear Fed Up:

And who wouldn't be! Your fellow worker needs a good psychiatrist and so does your librarian if she allows this to continue. Why should one worker be permitted to delay the whole library's progress because of her inability to cope with new things?

Certainly new services, etc., should be examined and discussed carefully before being adopted. Everyone concerned should be fully informed of what changes will be involved and should have an opportunity to express his or her opinion. Once the decision to add the new service has been made, however, no one person should be allowed to delay it. Those who have opposed it should put aside their objections and work as hard as they can to insure success.

As for what you can do, I am afraid there is very little. If your librarian does not soon see the light and straighten this situation out, my advice to you is to join the exodus of the youngsters. Seek a greener pasture -- there are plenty of them!

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Do you have a problem? Write to Anne Library.

#### SEEN HERE AND THERE

Mrs. Betty Hinton, Chairman of the Cherokee County Public Library Board, and Miss Mary Aiken, Pickens County Intern, attending a three-day seminar for Methodist women being held at U. N. Headquarters.

Mrs. Martha J. Norment, Children's Librarian, Spartanburg Public Library, receiving her library science degree from Peabody at the end of summer school.

Miss Lois Barbare, State Library Board, enjoying a cool vacation in the mountains.

Colleton County Memorial Library bookmobile service in the Berea community being featured in an excellent newspaper story. Congratulations to Mrs. Mamie Dell Smith, Bookmobile Librarian, and Mrs. Marguerite G. Thompson, Librarian!



The Laura M. Towne Library beginning bookmobile service to the residents of St. Helena Island on September 13.

Mrs. Alton B. Hoy substituting in the Fairfield County Library during Mrs. T. A. Quattlebaum's absence.

Mrs. May M. Ray, State Library Board, visiting her son in Arizona.

### DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO REPORT?

Send news of what is happening in your library to the State Library Board so that it may be reported in News for Public Librarians. Others working for better public library service in South Carolina want to know what you and your staff are doing.

### DATES TO BE REMEMBERED

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|---------------------|--|
| October 23 - 25     | Southeastern Library Association, Kentucky Hotel and Sheraton-Seelback Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky |
| October 30          | Workshop, Public Library Section SCLA, Mrs. Florence Craig, Consultant and Guest Speaker           |
| Oct. 31 - Nov. 1    | South Carolina Library Association, Annual Meeting, Columbia Hotel, Columbia                       |
| November 2 - 8      | Book Week  |
| April 12 - 18, 1959 | National Library Week  |